

Adoption Day



In Michigan, there are about 12,600 children in foster care. Approximately 2,600 children

whose parents' rights have been terminated have a goal of adoption, of which about 300 children still need a forever family.

In response, state courts are cosponsoring [Michigan Adoption Day](#), November 22. Participating courts finalize adoptions, hold parties for adoptive families, and educate the public about the adoption process.

Judicial Election Results

Unlike federal judges who are appointed for life, Michigan's state judges must run for election on the non-partisan ballot. Supreme Court justices serve 8-year terms. All other judges have 6-year terms. ([Const 1963, Art 6, § 2, 8, 9, 12, 16](#)) Judicial elections for local and statewide races take place in even-numbered years.

In the recent election, two incumbents on the Michigan Supreme Court, [Justice David F. Viviano](#) and [Justice Joan L. Larsen](#) were reelected. Justice Viviano ran for a full 8-year term, while Justice Larsen, who was appointed by the governor to fill a vacancy, was retained for a partial term ending January 1, 2019. ([Const 1963, Art 6, § 23](#))



Justice David F. Viviano and Justice Joan L. Larsen will remain on the Michigan Supreme Court.

Calendar

November

22 [Adoption Day](#)
24–25 State Holidays

December

7–8 [MSC Oral Arguments](#)
23 State Holiday
26 State Holiday
30 State Holiday

January

2 State Holiday
6–8 [MSC Oral Arguments](#)
16 State Holiday
25 [MSC Public Hearing](#)

February

20 State Holiday

Judicial Qualifications in Michigan

- Licensed to practice law in Michigan and admitted for at least 5 years
- Less than 70 years of age at the time of election or appointment
- Live in the territory where elected or appointed to serve



See [Const 1963, Art 6, § 19, 20](#)

Schedule Tours Today!

Whether you are planning for next semester or next year, the [Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center](#) has openings available. Free, guided tours may be reserved for Mondays–Fridays, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., except state holidays. Call **517-373-7171** before they are gone!



Tribal Courts

In Michigan there are 12 federally recognized American Indian tribes. Each tribe is a separate sovereign; therefore, each has its own tribal government, existing under terms governed by treaties signed between the tribes and the federal government. Each tribe determines how its government functions and writes its own laws.

The tribes have jurisdiction in Indian Country, a phrase defined in federal law. Indian Country includes reservation lands and some other lands under tribal control.

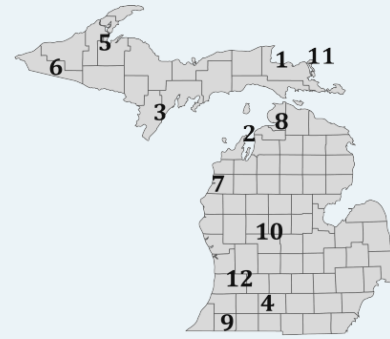
All 12 federally recognized tribes in Michigan maintain tribal courts. The courts have broad civil and criminal jurisdiction within the tribal community. The tribes' jurisdiction over non-members is more limited.

Under a court rule adopted by the Michigan Supreme Court in 1996, the judgments and orders of a tribal court are enforceable in state courts. State orders are likewise enforceable in tribal court, under provisions adopted by each of Michigan's tribal courts. ([MCR 2.615](#))

Learn more about tribal courts and judges in this [interview transcript of Judge Michael D. Petoskey](#), which appears in the Learning Center's *People of the Three Fires* exhibit.

Tribal Courts Located in Michigan
courts.mi.gov/courts/tribalcourts/

Federally Recognized Tribes in Michigan



- 1) Bay Mills Indian Community
- 2) The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians
- 3) Hannahville Indian Community
- 4) Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi
- 5) Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
- 6) Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- 7) Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
- 8) Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
- 9) Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
- 10) Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
- 11) Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
- 12) Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians of Michigan (Gun Lake Tribe)

Recommended Resource

Indians of the Midwest, Past & Present – Newberry Library
publications.newberry.org/indiansofthemidwest/

This project highlights items (e.g. photographs, maps, artwork, videos) from the Newberry Library collections, including examples from Michigan, past and present. It also recommends numerous online sources from other organizations. The project draws on the expertise of a large network of Native and non-Native scholars.

Civics-related topics include sovereignty, treaties and treaty rights, and tribal governments. It also covers economics, family life, religion, identity, and stereotypes.

